

EEHW Committee Meeting
February 16, 2006
5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jay Dunn, Chair
Patty Cox
Tom Durbin
Linda Little
Melverta Wilkins

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Dan Lightner, Planning & Zoning
Sherri Ludlam, Solid Waste
Amy Stockwell, Auditor
Randy Waks, Asst. State's Attorney
Melissa Gunn, Animal Control
Dick Shelby, ROE

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jerry Potts
Verzell Taylor

This meeting was called to order by Chair Dunn at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion made by Tom Durbin to approve the minutes of January 19, 2006, seconded by Linda Little, and motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS

Motion made by Tom Durbin to pay the claims as funds become available and seconded by Patty Cox. Linda Little asked if service charges were being paid on credit cards, specifically one for Solid Waste in December 2005 shown on the auditor's report. Amy Stockwell said specifics would have to be researched, but they try not to; if there is a billing dispute, she has been successful in getting service charges reversed. She will check on the specific one mentioned tonight. Sherri Ludlam said one was because she had a balance continuing on her card because she could not find a receipt. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING

Regarding Case R-01-01-06, a rezoning petition by Aaron Klepzig R-1 to R-6, Chair Dunn said the minutes of the Zoning Board reflect they voted 4-0 to deny the request, and staff also recommended to deny it; petitioner had no objection to the staff's recommendation. Patty Cox asked why it was denied. Dan Lightner said it is a triangular lot in a unique area, an intersection of South Shores and Southland, located at 2802 Southland Drive; the R-6 requested zoning would allow up to 6 units on that lot which would cause quite a few problems. Tom Durbin stated he could see why it was denied. Dan Lightner said their intent was to put two units, a duplex, but the zoning would allow up to six. If the Zoning Board denied it, Chair Dunn was unsure but said Dan Lightner thought it just went to the board.

Being new to his position, Dan Lightner said he was under the impression that a denial by the Zoning Board of Appeals did not have to come before the EEHW Committee but until an affirmative answer is received from the state's attorney, he wanted to bring it here just in case. Motion made by Linda Little to support the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals in denying the petition, seconded by Tom Durbin, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Melverta Wilkins came into the meeting.

Animal Control

Melissa Gunn distributed information on dog and bird flu along with her Kennel Statistics Report for January 2006. An informational memo from the IL Department of Public Health on Animal Rabies Surveillance for 2005 was also distributed. Melissa said she thinks Phil Anello has an emergency outline for Animal Control in the event of a national disaster or emergency, and he is in the process of sending it to the state's attorney's office.

Melissa said she had spoken with the auditor yesterday on the status of her budget. Being 16% into the year, Melissa said her revenue is at 8% of her budget and her expenditures are 7% so expenditures are below revenue; however, going into contract talks, we do not know what the revenue will be. Patty Cox asked for a copy of her budget, and Melissa said she would make copies tonight.

Patty Cox asked the status of the city contract with Animal Control. Randy Waks said the contract has been drafted and revised to the way Melissa Gunn and Dr. Stevens would like to see it, and Chairman Wolfe has it now. Randy is waiting for a determination as to whether it is in the shape wanted, and then the city will be approached to start negotiations. Linda Little asked if that meant this committee, or Randy and Chairman Wolfe; Randy said it would be Chairman Wolfe and whomever. Melissa Gunn said she gave a copy to Chair Dunn last week, and Chairman Wolfe told her by phone this morning he would be getting with Chair Dunn to work out a time to meet with Dr. Stevens and Melissa to go over the latest draft. Chair Dunn asked if the EEHW committee could get a copy of the latest draft and Randy Waks said he would send it tomorrow. Chair Dunn asked Randy if he was contacting the city to set up negotiations, and Randy said he was only modifying the contract based on the way Melissa and Dr. Stevens wanted it; it has been handed off to Chairman Wolfe and Randy is not sure what the next step is. Chair Dunn said he feels it should come before the EEHW Committee in a closed session, and he will get it together on the agenda for the next meeting.

Solid Waste

Sherri Ludlam said a public hearing has been set for review and comments on the Solid Waste Management Plan next Friday, February 24, at 3:00 p.m. in the boardroom; Jay Dunn will be the hearing officer.

Sherri requested approval of appropriated funds for Blue Mound Township and the Village of Harristown based on their applications for clean-up grants up to \$1000 each. Motion made by Tom Durbin to approve the request, seconded by Patty Cox, and motion carried unanimously.

The enforcement grant application will be turned in to the agency the beginning of next month, and funding is the same level they upped it to last year, \$46,000. It was approximately 60% of the program last year. After it is approved by them, Sherri will bring it back to committee to send on to the county board for final approval.

Upcoming events were discussed.

Planning & Zoning

Dan Lightner said they are getting their act together and moving forward on some issues that have been stagnant for several years; if and when he asks for assistance, he would appreciate the committee's help.

Regarding the website, Dan said they are purchasing a server to host the Macon County Website in house, and Jason Kuhlman is currently redesigning that since it has been pulled back from the development people in Springfield. They are trying to move forward on other issues as well, and the committee will be seeing further action from the department shortly.

Regional Office of Education

Dick Shelby said he is on the sheriff's Criminal Justice Committee, and it is a priority with the state's attorney to help reduce truancy within the county. At the meeting tomorrow, a sub-committee will probably be formed with the state's attorney, a few others, and himself to look into aspects of truancy in Decatur. This has been worked on for two to three months, and it is encouraging. Truancy is still an issue so they will be trying some different tactics to try and reduce it in Decatur and Macon County.

Health Department

Jerry Andrews was not present from the Health Department. Chair Dunn said he had an ordinance to move through the committee to the county board, and everyone had a copy of it. Tom Durbin said he did not see anything in it which would raise a red flag but there is nothing to compare it to. Chair Dunn said since Jerry Andrews is not here, he wanted to move it through although not necessarily with a recommendation. Linda Little said she would move it through with a recommendation since it has been approved by the IL Department of Public Health. Motion made by Tom Durbin to recommend approval and forward to the county board, seconded by Patty Cox, and motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. at the Macon County Office Building, and a closed session to discuss the city contract with Animal Control will be on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Tom Durbin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Patty Cox, and motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Linda Koger
Macon County Board Office